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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/714,503	PI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kianni C. Kaveh	2883	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/14/05 and 1/10/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-17, 25-26, 28-38 and 40-48.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |


 Kaveh Kianni
 Primary Examiner

Applicant's canceling of claims 1-5 and 21-24 in the amendment/response submitted on 11/14/05 is acknowledged.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Chesavage on 1/10-11/2006 in order to avoid further restriction of the newly presented claims 25-48 and canceling the non-elected claims 6-14 and 18-20 so as to allow the case.

Claim 25: in line 15 please delete [force] and insert pressure

In the last line immediately after 'energy' please insert
; a signal processor to process output of the optical detector and to
determine the pressure on the diaphragm

Claim 26: in 2nd line please delete [force] and insert pressure

Please cancel claim 27

Claim 34: in 2nd line please delete [a] and insert said

Claim 37: in line 16 please delete [force] and insert pressure

In line 19 immediately after 'on said fiber' please insert
; of said sensing device

Claim 38: in 1st line please delete [force] and insert pressure

Please cancel claim 39

Claim 46: in the 2nd line please delete [a] and insert said

Please cancel claims 6-14 and 18-20.

Also/additionally the Examiner's Amendment regarding canceling of claims 6-14 and 18-20 allowed because the applicant's election of claims 15-17 has been without traverse.

Reason for Allowance

Claims 15-17, 25-26, 28-38 and 40-48 and are allowed for the following reasons:

The instant application is deemed to be directed to a nonobvious improvement over the invention patented in Pat. No. Beasley (US 4360247).

Claims 15, 25 and 37 are allowed because the prior art of record, taken alone or in

Art Unit: 2883

combination, fails to disclose or render obvious said overlay waveguide having a planar surface including a coupling region along a length of said fiber for said extraction of light, where said overlay waveguide coupling region is substantially thicker than said fiber core in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim. Claims 16-17 and 26, 28-36 and 38-48 depend, respectively, on claims 15, 25 and 37 and therefore they are also allowed. Regarding claim 37, since the process for sensing incorporates sufficiently the structure of sensing device which is allowable it would not infringe other sensing devices that are otherwise are devoid of the sensing structure of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to K. Cyrus Kianni whose telephone number is (571) 272-2417.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font, can be reached at (571) 272-2415.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communications intended for entry)

Art Unit: 2883

or:

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Plaza 4, 2021 South Clark Place, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

K. Cyrus Kianni
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2883

January 11, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a long horizontal line that tapers off to the right.

**KAVEH KIANNI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**